

Commission on Student Affairs

Thursday, March 19, 2015

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Squires Student Center – Brush Mountain Room

Present:

Susan Anderson, Tuna Shankar, Matthew Chan, Austin Dickey, Joseph Edens, Jackie Fisher, Lauren Surface, Austin Larrowe, Ethan Poole, Sapna Singh-designee for Brian Tran, Ricardo Zalles Reyes, Alicia Cohen, Jake Tully, Greg Purdy, Daniel Ridenour-designee for Eric Wetzel, Hunter Gresham -designee for Patty Perillo, Robert Sebek, Cathye Betzel, Claire Childress, Rudney Danquah, Ashley Francis, Jean-Luc Ford, Kaleigh Leal

Absent:

Mary Ann Lewis, Noha Elsherbiny, Ricardo Zalles Reyes. Erica Bassuk

Guests:

Tim Pote, Tricia Smith, Megan Nguyen, Ryan Hopkins, Morgan Sykes, Srinath Ekkad

I. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Joseph Edens, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. welcoming the group to today's meeting and reviewing the agenda items for discussion. Mr. Joe Edens requested a mid-semester update to be added to the agenda and asked for a motion to approve this change and adopt the agenda; it was moved by Mr. Greg Purdy, seconded by Ms. Ashley Francis, and approved unanimously.

II. Presentations

Board of Visitors Student Representatives Finalists

Undergraduate students:

Morgan Sykes: Ms. Sykes spoke of moving Virginia Tech to the Association of American Universities, a push for more students to be involved and the Board of Visitors undergraduate student representative to be more personable and open.

Megan Nguyen: Ms. Nguyen spoke of inclusion and serving as a liaison between students and faculty to create institutional change in addition to student wellness and financial literacy.

Ryan Hopkins: Mr. Hopkins spoke of enhancing the first year experience and students realizing their passions as well as engagement for students moving on through their college career.

Graduate students:

Tim Pote: Mr. Pote spoke of improving the Orientation program for graduate

students and believes funding is the number one issue graduate students face.

Gregory Purdy: Mr. Purdy spoke of bringing two way communication between the graduate students and the Board of Visitors; working on the quality of life for graduate students; affordable and available of child care; family housing for graduate students; dental care for graduate students.

Mohammed Seyam: Mr. Seyam spoke of child care initiatives for graduate students as well as diversity and inclusion initiatives; international student issues; access to publications resources for research.

Intellectual Property Policy – Dr. Srinath Ekkad

Dr. Srinath Ekkad, Chair of the Intellectual Property Committee reporting to the Commission on Research, provided information regarding changes made by the committee to University Policy 13000, Policy on Intellectual Property. Changes are focused on providing clarity to students on their rights to intellectual property ownership based on their role at the university and the circumstances that create intellectual property.

Mid-semester Update – Mr. Joe Edens

Mr. Joe Edens, chair, provided an update on upcoming agenda items and offered a motion to add the meeting dates of 3/26, 4/9, and 4/23 to the commission's schedule. Mr. Greg Purdy so moved, the motion was seconded by Mr. Matt Chan, and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. Unfinished Business

Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution Revision (Second Reading)

Mr. Joe Edens, chair, announced he would not run this section of business due to a conflict of interest and that Ms. Jackie Fisher, vice chair, would conduct the business. Mr. Jake Tully read the constitutional changes for the commission and Mr. Greg Purdy motioned for discussion, the motion was seconded by Mr. Matt Chan, and it was approved unanimously. Mr. Jake Tully answered questions pertaining to the changes and with no additional amendments, Mr. Matt Chan moved to vote, the motion was seconded by Ms. Ashley Francis, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Residence Hall Federation (RHF) Constitution Revision (Second Reading)

Ms. Jackie Fisher read proposed changes to the Residence Hall Federation Constitution for the commission and Mr. Chan moved to vote, the motion was seconded by Mr. Greg Purdy, and the motion was approved unanimously.

IV. New Business

No new business.

V. Commissions/Committees Updates

No Commission/Committee updates.

VI. Announcements

President and Vice President candidates for the Student Government Association will debate tonight, March 19th, in Old Dominion Ballroom at 7:00pm.

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors will meet on Monday, March 30th, at the Inn at Virginia Tech.

The Clothesline Project will take place next week on the Drillfield and/or Squires Student Center and Take Back the Night will take place on Thursday, March 26th, starting at 7:00pm.

VII. Adjournment

With no further announcements or business, Mr. Joe Edens, chair, entertained a motion to adjourn; Mr. Dan Ridenour motioned and Ms. Tuna Shankar seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.